

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

Noted by Mr. Tolson

May 19, 1960. Senator Jackson made the following statement on the floor of the Senate:

"Mr. President. I have written to President Eisenhower, formally recommending that, subject to necessary safeguards, we offer to place our reconnaissance satellites at the service of the United Nations as a part of an international inspection program designed to prevent nuclear Pearl Harbors for any nation."

In June 10, 1960, in the executive session of the Jackson Committee at which Secretary Herter was testifying, the following colloquy took place:

Senator Jackson. Mr. Secretary, there was brief allusion earlier to the reconnaissance satellite. Some time ago I wrote a letter to the President suggesting that we make available or extend an offer to the United Nations that we will make our reconnaissance satellite, or the family available, or the findings available to the United Nations, as a means of bringing about what the President earlier in 1955 offered in the open skies proposal. It would seem to me we are on pretty strong ground in view of the fact that the Soviets were the first to cover the air space of other countries in unmanned satellites. I don't see how they can object. I just hope that the Department will give some serious consideration to this matter if there is merit in it.

Secretary Herter. I think we have written you a letter to that effect, that we are giving serious consideration.

Senator Jackson. I guess I have not seen it yet. ..."

The foregoing suggests that Senator Jackson's letter to the President was referred to the State Department for reply.

In June 14 I asked Howard Furnas to obtain for us a copy of the letter referred to by Secretary Herter, but the same has not been forthcoming as yet.

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